



## Donald Joseph Gill

October 13, 1934 - October 9, 2009

Donald Joseph Gill, Sr., 74, of Naples, FL, formerly of Clarion, PA, passed away peacefully on Friday, October 9, 2009, after an extended illness. Born October 13, 1934 in Detroit, MI, he was the son of Donald Joseph and Pearl (Crooks) Gill.

He was a 1953 graduate of Patton High School in Patton, PA.

After serving in the US Navy he graduated from Indiana State Teacher's College where he was a standout athlete and was awarded a 2005 Distinguished Alumni Award. He taught geography and was head football coach at Grove City High School before leaving education for a career in explosives.

He worked for Atlas Powder Company before becoming owner of the Amos L. Dolby Company, Clarion Explosives, Inc., Alpha Environmental Company in Corsica, PA, and Ramac Explosives in Allentown, PA. He and his business partners also formed Auto Group Enterprises, owners of automobile dealerships in Clarion and State College. In addition, he served on the Board of Directors of the Institute of the Makers of Explosives in Washington, D.C. and was one of the founders of the Nobel Insurance Company based in Bermuda.

Don was married to his loving wife, Lorna, who survives. He will be greatly missed by his three children, Shonna Jungbluth of Titusville, PA, Donald (Robin) Gill of Brookville, PA and Kelly (David) Pallone of Palmyra PA, as well as his step-children, Jeremy Dene of Tampa, FL and Jaclyn Slovacek of

Naples, FL. He is also survived by six grandchildren: Kai Jungbluth, Madison and Jack Gill and John, Joseph and Michael Pallone.

Also surviving are three sisters, Nancy Campbell, Sarah Linch, and Janet Sharp; sister-in-law, Jean Gill; and twelve nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Richard Gill and Jack Whitman.

The family will receive friends from 2-4 pm and 7-9 pm on Wednesday, October 14, 2009, at the Robert V. Burns Funeral Home, 638 Wood St. in Clarion, PA.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am on Thursday, October 15, 2009, at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 62 Pickering St., Brookville, PA, with Pastor Joie Baker and Rev. William French presiding.

Interment will follow in the Fairview Cemetery, Patton, PA.

In lieu of flowers, Don requested donations to Avow Hospice, 1095 Whippoorwill Lane, Naples, FL 34105 or to the Frank Cignetti Scholarship Fund, c/o Frank Condino, IUP Athletic Department, 107 Memorial Field House, 660 South 11th St., Indiana, PA 15705.

# Tribute Wall

RP

“ Our deepest sympathies!!! You all are in our thoughts and prayers. We are very sorry to learn of the loss of your father. Our hearts go out to you.

*Thinking of you,  
Rona and Kory*

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**Rona Provencher** - October 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ To the Gill Family and Lorna

*Our family express our deepest sympathy in the loss of Don. Our thoughts and prayers are with you doing this difficult time. I could not attend the services to being out of town and wish I could have been there. He was a partner with my Dad and when he died, Don was there to support us during those hard times. Don was a true gentleman and will be missed by all. Rejoice his life not his death*

*Jim Bertiaux*

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**Jim Bertiaux** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ To the entire Gill family, I am so sorry for your loss, you are all in my thoughts. I wish I could have come back to pay my respects. Uncle Don will be greatly missed. Love Renee, Dale and Ashton

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**Renee Brookbanks** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RO

“ Don, Robin, Kelly and Shonna  
I am so sorry for the passing of your dad. I understand what he meant to all of you and I am keeping each of you in my prayers - I wish I could be there for you so I am sending a hug for each of you. He will always be with you - remember that.

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**Rosemary** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ my condolences on loss.HS friend  
of Dons.played along side Don on  
football team. Great GuY !!!

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**rron patrick** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Shonna, Kelly, Don, and Lorna, I am so sorry for your loss. Your dad was one of a kind! Always had a smile on his face, and always had a great story to tell! I will have great memories of the AWSEOME family reunion's he hosted in PA, some of my favorite memories! He loved his family, and we all love him very much! You're all in my thoughts and prayers. Love you!

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**Linda Hutchinson** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ PLEASE LET US CELEBRATE WITH YOU THE LIFE OF YOUR DONALD. TO SAY THE LEAST DON WAS A WONDERFUL HUMAN BEING. BROTHER JACK AND I HAVE MANY FOND MEMORIES OF DON AND HIS TAILGATE PARTIES AT PSU. TO KNOW HIM WAS TO LOVE HIM. WE WILL MISS HIM. GOD BLESS ALL.

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**SUE AND RALPH LITZ** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ We were saddened to learn of your loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Titusville Head Start Staff** - October 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Lorna, Don Jr:

*Sorry to hear of Don's passing. He was a great guy who was a real help to me in many phases of business in addition to being a personal friend.*

*Dave*

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**Dave Bramer** - October 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GE

“ To the entire Gill family I send my deepest sympathy. Don will be missed by many.

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**Gwen Eaker** - October 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ For Don's family: I am so sorry for your loss. Don was a great gentleman. I will miss seeing Don on his occasional trips to Patton. We lived in the same apartment building growing up in Patton. I was just a kid when Don was in high school. I looked up to him because of his gentleness and strength. Don was admired by many people, especially the girls he went to school with. What a handsome and great guy. What a great legacy Don has left you his family.

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**Susan Noel** - October 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Don Jr & family, Our thoughts and prayers go out to you, Don was a special person and our entire industry was blessed to have known him.

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**Dale Ramsey** - October 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ My sympathy to the entire Gill family for the loss of the most kind and warm-hearted father a family could ask for. Don treated our family as his own through the years, spending time at sporting events, sitting in the boats fishing, or at Dad's camp just shooting the breeze. Even my son remembers Don taking him for drives in Reidsburg in the old pea green Mercedes when we were there, or sitting on the back deck with Don and Uncle Beanie, both in tears with laughter after telling stories. Take his smile, great compassion, and joy for life with you forward. Love always, Anne

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**Anne (Kahle) Miller** - October 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ My deepest sympathy to you. I know how hard it is to let a loving father go even though we know they are in a better place. My thoughts and prayers are there with you.

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**Judy Abrams** - October 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ Shona:

*You have my deepest sympathies in the loss of your Father.*

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**Sandra J. Dowling** - October 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ My sincere sympathies for the loss of Coach Gill. He coached with my dad at Grove City High school a long time ago. i was just a kid then but remember him very well. I hope he had good memories of those days and the kids on the teams. I very much remember an incident in the parking lot on a winter's evening during half time of a basketball game. One of the older kids came to the game drunk and looking for trouble. Don and my Dad (with me tagging along) discussed the situation with the student in no uncertain terms in the school parking lot. End of trouble. I always wondered where Don had gone and what he decided to do with his life after leaving coaching and teaching, and can't believe he was in Clarion all this time. I hope he had a wonderful, fulfilling life. Peace

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**John Hummel** - October 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Shonna, Donald and Kelly, My sincere condolences to you and your family's. I am very sorry for the loss of your father. He will be missed. I will think of him always. I'm sorry I could not be back there with you.

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**Ron Kachmar** - October 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

WC

“ Connie and I were so very saddened to here of Don's death. You and the family have our prayers and deepest sympathy.

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**Waller Caldwell** - October 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ Hey Don,

*My deepest sympathy to you and your family. I wish I were up there to pay a visit to you. You and yours will be in my prayers....*

*Ray Ewing*

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**Ray Ewing** - October 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ *Shonna, I send my sincere condolences to you and your family. It seems that your father accomplished much in his time here and has left behind much to be remembered by - take peace in the fact that he made his life worthwhile and enjoyed it. Prayers to you.*  
*Marybeth Kober (friend and colleague of Shonna)*

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**Marybeth Kober** - October 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM